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Appl. No. 09/617,419  
Amdt. Dated November 8, 2004  
Reply to Office action of August 10, 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/617,419  
Applicant : Tadafumi Shimizu et al.  
Filed : July 10, 2003  
Title : FIXING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS  
USING THE SAME

Conf. No. : 4019  
TC/A.U. : 2852  
Examiner : Hoang X. Ngo

Customer No. : 000,116  
Docket No. : 35874

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT "A"**

Sir:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office action dated August 10, 2004 (Paper No. 080504). The three month period for responding to the Office action expires on November 10, 2004.

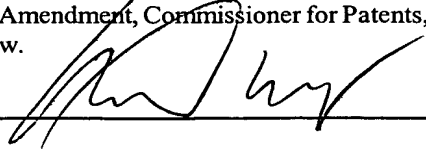
Please amend the above-identified application in the following manner.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Michael W. Garvey  
Name of Attorney for Applicant(s)



November 8, 2004  
Signature of Attorney/Date